

Appn No. 09/575,167
Amdt. Dated June 08, 2004
Response to Office action of Mach 17, 2004

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12-13 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Metcalfe (US 5809181), Sakamoto (US 4275413) and Barzel (US 5699491).

In the Official Action, the Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 5 and 14 if re-written in independent form, for which the Applicant is grateful. In the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5 and claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14. Claims 5 and 14 have been cancelled.

As the Examiner has indicated the allowability of claims reciting all the features of claims 1 and 12 as amended, the Applicant submits that the amendments made herein place the application in condition for allowance, and accordingly reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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